

SIoux INDIANS OF DEVILS LAKE, N. DAK.

LETTER

FROM

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

An amended estimate of appropriation, submitted by the Secretary of the Interior, for the support and civilization of the Sioux Indians of Devils Lake, N. Dak.

JANUARY 16, 1895.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *January 15, 1895.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, an amended estimate of appropriation, submitted by the Secretary of the Interior on this day, for support and civilization of Sioux Indians of Devils Lake, \$12,000, the original estimate for which will be found on page 152 of the Book of Estimates for 1896.

Respectfully, yours,

C. S. HAMLIN, *Acting Secretary.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 15, 1895.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith a communication from the United States Indian Agent at Devil's Lake Agency, N. Dak., setting forth the necessity of furnishing seeds to the Indians under his charge. These Indians have no funds of their own, and the only appropriation made for them is a small gratuity of \$6,000, for support and civilization, including pay of employees. After the necessary employees are paid, the sum remaining is inadequate to do anything besides furnishing a few necessaries for the old and infirm.

The agent says that they have already plowed 4,000 acres and will plow 3,000 more in the spring; that they have no seeds to plant nor any money to buy them with, and that if they are not assisted now they will become discouraged to see their labor go for naught. I

therefore respectfully urge that Congress be asked to increase the appropriation of \$6,000 annually made for their benefit to \$12,000, with the proviso that one-half of this amount shall be used for the purchase of seeds, and become immediately available.

To carry this recommendation into effect, I inclose a proposed amendment to the Indian appropriation bill.

Very respectfully,

D. M. BROWNING, *Commissioner.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, *January 15, 1895.*

Respectfully forwarded through the honorable Secretary of the Treasury for the favorable consideration of Congress.

HOKE SMITH, *Secretary.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, January 15, 1895.

SIR: I have the honor to bring to your attention the condition of the Devils Lake Indians and the necessity of assisting them in procuring seeds. Last fall, by their own unaided efforts, they plowed and properly prepared 4,000 acres for sowing and this spring they will prepare 3,000 acres more. They have no seeds of their own nor money to buy them with, and matters have now reached such a point that they must be assisted or their labor will all be lost, and, as a consequence, the Indians will become very much discouraged. I therefore earnestly urge that steps be taken to procure them the following:

6,000 bushels of wheat, at 70 cents per bushel.....	\$4,200.00
1,000 bushels of oats, at 45 cents per bushel.....	450.00
1,000 bushels of barley, at 50 cents per bushel	500.00
500 bushels of potatoes, at 90 cents per bushel	450.00
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	5,600.00

Very respectfully,

RALPH HALL,
United States Indian Agent.

The COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C.

AMENDMENT TO THE INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

For support and civilization of Sioux of Devils Lake, including pay of employees, twelve thousand dollars, six thousand dollars of which shall be used for the purchase of seeds and become immediately available.